28th September 1955] [Mr. Speaker]

2. In accordance with rule 130 of the Madras Council Rules, I return the Madras Land Revenue (Additional Surcharge) Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 29 of 1955), as passed by the Council on the 27th September 1955 without any recommendation and signed by me.''

III.—STATEMENT UNDER RULE 40 *RE* SPREAD OF LEPROSY IN AND AROUND VALLIAMMALPURAM, TIRUNELVELI DISTRICT.

MR. SPEAKER : I have received notice of a motion under rule 40 from the hon. Member, Sri M. S. Selvarajan, calling the attention of the Minister for Health to a matter of urgent public importance, viz., spread of leprosy in and around Valliammalpuram, Tirunelveli district. I request the hon. Member to say what he has to say on the matter.

* SRI M. S. SELVARAJAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my motion is to call the attention of the Minister for Health to a matter of urgent public importance, viz., spread of leprosy in and around Valliammalpuram, Tirunelveli district. Sir, leprosy has been spreading in the Valliammalpuram of Tiruchendur taluk in an endemic form for a long time. Many representations have been made to the department. In spite of it, action is delayed. Hence, I have moved this motion. Though only temporary relief measures are being started the measures taken are inadequate. So, permanent relief is quite essential in the form of opening of a leprosy clinic preferably in a village part where men and women can go without feeling shy. So, I request the Hon. Minister to make necessary arrangements for opening a leprosy clinic in or near Valliammalpuram.

In addition, I request that some propaganda measures through magic lanterns and other things may also be taken to make the people understand that leprosy is a curable disease.

SRI M. PALANIYANDI : On a point of order, Sir. It is stated to us in the notice of the motion circulated to us that it is to be taken up on the 29th September 1955. So, I want to know whether it is taken up to-day or is to be taken up to-morrow.

MR. SPEAKER : We are now on the motion given notice of by the hon. Member, Sri M. S. Selvarajan.

* SRI M. S. SELVARAJAN : The hon. Member refers to another motion which is to be taken up to-morrow. Now, in addition to the opening of a permanent leprosy clinic in Valliammalpuram, I request that some more aid may be given to the existing hospitals or dispensaries at Tuticorin, Tiruchendur and Nazareth. Arrangements for treatment of leprosy have been made in Tiruchendur taluk and Srivaikuntam taluk and in Megnanapuram also. Action may also be taken to examine by what measures the disease can be prevented wherever it is spreading in Tiruchendur taluk.

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : Sir, the notice relates to the spread of leprosy in and around Valliammalpuram village, Tirunelveli district. On the representation of Sri M. S. Selvarajan, M.L.A., received by Government in April 1955, in the matter, the remarks of the Director of Medical Services were already obtained in this regard. The Director of Medical Services reports that the survey of the area was already made by the State Leprosy Survey Officer, Vellore, that the District Medical Officer, Tirunelveli, has already requested the Honorary Secretary, Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh, Tirunelveli District Branch, to supply medicines, etc., to the Medical Officer of the Mission Hospital, Megnanapuram, for the treatment of leprosy cases in and around Immanuelpuram village and that the District Medical Officer, Tirunelveli, has already supplied the following medicines to the Medical Officer, Mission Hospital, Megnanapuram, from the stocks to the Government Hospital, Palayamkottai, for the treatment of leprosy cases :—

Syringes	3
Cotton wool	6 lb.
Sulphone Tablets	250
Needles	12
Oleum Hydoncarpl oil ..	1 lb.
Spritus Methylatus	2 lb.

The survey of the villages in Tiruchendur taluk in Tirunelveli district was done by the State Leprosy Survey Unit, Vellore, during the month of February 1955. It is proposed to ask the Director of Medical Services to consult the Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh, Tirunelveli district branch, whether the Sangh can open a clinic at Valliammalpuram village with Government help, if necessary.

IV.—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE *RE* PROGRAMME OF SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE.

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : May I know from the Hon. the Leader of the House about the business of the House for to-day, to-morrow and day after to-morrow and how long this sitting will continue?

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : There is a resolution on the Legislature becoming a member of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. After that is over, the Bill standing in the name of the Hon. the Revenue Minister will be taken up. There will be no sitting in the afternoon of to-day. To-morrow we will be assembling at 8-30 a.m. To-morrow with the consent of the Leaders of the Opposition, the non-official day will be treated as an official day and the questionnaire issued by the Official Language Commission will be taken up for consideration. Day after to-morrow the discussion will be continued. We will also have to